

I ask unanimous consent that the cloture vote on the motion to proceed to S. 2731, the global AIDS bill, occur on Monday, July 14, at 5:30, p.m., with the hour prior to the cloture vote equally divided and controlled between the leaders or their designees; that if cloture is invoked, all postcloture time be yielded back, the motion to proceed be agreed to, the motion to reconsider be laid on the table, and the Senate proceed to consideration of the bill.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

The Senator from Arizona.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, I do object on behalf of Senator DEMINT. Let me make a very brief statement.

The distinguished majority leader is correct. It is almost 11:30 this evening, and we have been working since about 3 o'clock this afternoon to try to reach agreement on how to proceed with this very important bill. We have made a lot of progress. A lot of Members have been willing to make concessions to try to limit the number of amendments that would be considered so this bill could be completed sometime next week. But we haven't worked out everything. Unfortunately, because everything hasn't been worked out at this late hour tonight, it wasn't possible for us, one of our Members, to agree to this particular request. The majority leader is correct about how we will have to proceed as a result.

It is my strong hope that because this is a very important piece of legislation—Members have different views about aspects of it—an agreement could be reached by which an appropriate number of amendments could be considered and debated and voted on next week and the bill finally disposed of at a point next week. There is a fairly constructive way to do this, and then there is a way to do it that isn't as constructive.

So I appreciate the effort the majority leader and others have put into this tonight. It would be my hope that in that same spirit, we can continue to talk about this tomorrow and hopefully reach an agreement we would be able to proceed with in order to complete the bill sometime next week.

Mr. REID. Mr. President, there was an objection, I understand, by my friend.

There has been tremendous work on this bill for months and months. The principal workers on this bill have been the chairman of the committee, Senator BIDEN, and the ranking member, Senator LUGAR. They have worked on this for months. I have, for more than a month, had statements made to me: Give us another day, another day. That has been going on for a long time. We are in a situation here where we ran out of days, and we had to move forward. Senator LUGAR and Senator BIDEN have accepted numerous amendments from Members wanting to make this bill better. I am confident they did make the bill better. But the fact is—I want everyone to understand—the

work on this bill did not start tonight. Senators LUGAR and BIDEN thought all the work had been done on it.

So we are where we are. Senators have a right to suggest changes to a bill, even though we have spent a lot of time on it.

I say to my friend, the distinguished Republican whip, we are anxious to finish this bill. I personally think it is good legislation. I think it is something we as a country need to do. But also understand that we have been willing to accept on this piece of legislation any germane amendments that relate to this bill. We have even agreed tonight to work on some things that are not, but we have agreed to do that in an effort to move this forward. I hope over the weekend, perhaps even tomorrow before we leave, maybe something can be done. If not, maybe Monday we can do something. Otherwise, we find ourselves in this position. Monday we are on the bill. We would at that time, of course, have to file cloture on the bill itself.

Now, I think we could constructively use some time. If there are Senators who want to change this legislation and do it in a germane fashion, we should spend that 30 hours—actually the 2 days it would take for cloture to ripen—on trying to improve the bill. We would be happy to do that. We would even be willing to consider, as my friend knows, the junior Senator from Arizona, amendments, as we have talked about tonight, that may not be technically germane. I hope we can do that.

But as we have seen in this Presidential election year, we have two of our Senators running for President, and it makes it extremely difficult to legislate in a way that we perhaps would like to. But that is the process in which we find ourselves. So hopefully something will work out well during the night or, if not, maybe tomorrow or, if not, over the weekend. I hope we could spend our week constructively disposing of this legislation the President wants.

We will finish the legislation very likely, one way or another, next week. I cannot imagine the President's own party would stop this bill from passing. But we have been surprised in the past. So we will do what we can to help the President. This is a bill I believe in. The vast majority of the Democrats—in fact, I do not know of a Democrat who does not like the bill. But we hope there would be some reasonableness on the other side to try to help the President's program also.

Mr. KYL. Mr. President, might I make a point of clarification?

Mr. REID. Sure.

Mr. KYL. I think the majority leader will agree with this. When the majority leader speaks of accepting amendments, it is not a matter of accepting an amendment to the bill.

Mr. REID. No. To debate and vote on them.

Mr. KYL. But rather agreeing to allow an amendment to be offered, debated and voted on.

Mr. REID. That is right. I am sorry I did not make that clear.

Mr. KYL. No, No. I knew the Senator would want to be clear on that. There are some nonrelevant or nongermane amendments that have been proposed. It is certainly understandable that the majority would not want to have those amendments considered as a part of the debate. For those amendments, however, that are relevant to the subject matter at hand, that is what most of the discussion has been about, and we are hoping at the end of the day an arrangement can be agreed to where those amendments could be considered by the Senate, debated, voted upon, maybe rejected, but at least the Members would have had an opportunity to vote on the amendments, and, as I said before, and, as the majority leader said, to conclude the bill then sometime next week.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The objection is heard.

Mr. REID. So Mr. President, I have asked the first consent, which was that we have no votes until Monday. That was objected to.

ORDER OF PROCEDURE

Mr. REID. So, Mr. President, now I ask unanimous consent that on Friday, after all the postcloture time has expired on the motion to disagree—that time occurring at 5:21 p.m.—the Senate proceed to vote on the motion to disagree to the amendment of the House adding a new title and inserting a new section to the amendment of the Senate to H.R. 3221; that upon disposition of that motion, the Senate then proceed to vote on the motion to invoke cloture on the motion to proceed to S. 2731, the global AIDS bill; that if cloture is invoked, then all postcloture time be deemed expired, and on Monday, July 14, following a period of morning business, the motion to proceed be agreed to, and the motion to reconsider be laid upon the table; that the Senate then proceed to the consideration of S. 2731; that if cloture is not invoked, then a motion to reconsider the vote by which cloture was not invoked be considered to have been entered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Is there objection?

Without objection, it is so ordered.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. The assistant majority whip.

MORNING BUSINESS

Mr. DURBIN. Mr. President, I ask unanimous consent that the Senate proceed to a period of morning business.

The PRESIDING OFFICER. Without objection, it is so ordered.

RECOGNIZING UNIVISION NOTICIAS

15

Mr. REID. Mr. President, I rise today to recognize the efforts of Noticias 15,